

Application Number: 10/511,807

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Attorney Docket: NL021156

IN THE CLAIMS

~~1. (Currently Amended) A method of coding an multi-channel audio signal, the method comprising:~~

- generating a monaural signal comprising a combination of at least two input audio channels
wherein the at least two input audio channels are time/frequency sliced such that they can be analyzed as a function of time,
determining a set of spatial parameters indicative of spatial properties of the at least two input audio channels, the set of spatial parameters including a parameter representing a measure of similarity of waveforms of the at least two input audio channels, and
generating an encoded signal comprising the monaural signal and the set of spatial parameters,
~~wherein the step of generating an encoded signal comprising the monaural signal and the set of spatial parameters comprises generating a set of quantized spatial parameters, each introducing a corresponding quantization error relative to the corresponding determined spatial parameter.~~
~~wherein at least one of the introduced quantization errors is controlled to depend on a value of at least one of the determined spatial parameters~~

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining a set of spatial parameters indicative of spatial properties comprises determining a set of spatial parameters as a function of time and frequency.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the step of determining a set of spatial parameters indicative of spatial properties comprises

- dividing each of the at least two input audio channels into corresponding pluralities of frequency bands;

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~~indicative of spatial properties of the at least two input audio channels within the~~

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to any one of claims 1 through 3, wherein the set of spatial parameters includes at least one localization cue.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the set of spatial parameters includes at least two localization cues comprising an interchannel level difference and a selected one of an interchannel time difference and an interchannel phase difference.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 4, wherein the measure of similarity comprises information that cannot be accounted for by the localization cues.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the measure of similarity corresponds to a value of a cross-correlation function at a maximum of said cross correlation function.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Currently Amended) An encoder for coding an multi-channel audio signal, the encoder comprising:

~~means for receiving an audio signal comprising a combination of at least two input audio channels wherein the at least two input audio channels are time/frequency sliced such that they can be analyzed as a function of time,~~

- means for determining a set of spatial parameters indicative of spatial properties of the at

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